

**REMARKS**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-14 and 16-20 under section 112, first paragraph for failing to provide a written description of the invention.

The Examiner states in the office action:

But it does not appear as though the specification discloses that the pull arm quick connector (1032) is "configured so as to have an adjustable location with respect to said chassis".

Further in specific regards to claim 16, it does not appear as though the specification provides for "a connection point having an adjustable location with respect to said chassis"

The Applicants wish to point out the portions of the specification which provide the description the Examiner desired.

At the bottom of page 7 and the top of page 8, the following text is included in the patent application as filed:

"Hydraulic cylinders 1034 and 1035 or other mechanism for manipulating pull arm 103 between various raised and lowered positions are also shown. *In a preferred arrangement, the pull arm 103 can be raised or lowered to engage tool*

*attachments*, discussed in detail below. While it may be preferred to utilize dual pull arms 103 on each side, it should be understood that a centrally disposed pull arm or group of centrally disposed pull arms could be used as well. The pull arm 103 is preferably movable, but it should be understood that it could be a simple fixed connection point disposed on the tractor 100. An upper link 104 could be another connection between the tractor 100 and tool attachments. Upper link 104, if hydraulically extendable and retractable, could be used to connect, position and otherwise manipulate any tool attachment coupled to pull arm 103. (Note: that the upper link 104 may not be used on some attachments such as the screed.) An upper link 104 may be disposed on either side of the tractor 100, or a single upper link could be used as well. Appropriate driver controls 125 may be included to assist in the manipulation of pull arm 103 and upper link 104.” (emphasis added)

Additionally, Claim 15 as originally filed includes the following:

*“a vertically adjustable arm, coupled to said chassis for providing movement of a connection point thereon;*

a hydraulic system, coupled to said chassis, and receiving power from said engine, said hydraulic system for assisting vertical adjustment of said vertically adjustable arm;”(emphasis added)

The Applicants believe that the specification does show that pull arm can be raised or lowered to engage tool attachments and for movement of the connection point.

The attached Rule 132 declaration establishes that a person skilled in the art who reads the application in total, and pays attention to the above excerpts, together with the drawings, would conclude that the pull arm 103 is movable up and down and that it would allow the pull arm to be configurable for adjustable locations of the connector with respect to the chassis.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants believe that the 112 rejections have been overcome. Removal of the same would be appreciated.

In the previous amendment, Applicants amended claims 1, 11 and 16 to include limitation to this notion of adjustable location of the connection point. The Examiner has ignored these limitations in making the current rejections of claims over Olson.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6 and 10-12 as being anticipated by Olson. This rejection is overcome by the previous arguments which explain that the previous claim amendments to the claims do not add new matter and, therefore,

must be considered. When they are fully considered, it becomes clear that Olson does not anticipate these claims.

This notion of adjustable location of the connection point is not taught by the Olson reference. The Olson reference teaches away from this aspect of the present invention. Olson shows a fixed location on the paving tractor for securing the attachments. Moreover, the Olson reference teaches that the attachments should be "adapted" to mate with the location on the paving tractor. This notion of adapting the attachments to fit the tractor is a teaching away from the present invention with its limitations to a connection point which is movable with respect to the chassis.

The Examiner rejected claims 16-18 as being anticipated by Macku. The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As with the above rejection, the amendments do not add new matter and should be considered. Claim 16, as amended, includes the notion of adjusting the location of the connection point. This is not taught by Macku. Removal of the anticipation rejection of these claims is, therefore, required.

The Examiner has rejected claims 11-15, 19 and 20 as being obvious over Macku in view of Olson. Claim 11, as amended, should be fully considered for the reasons discussed above. Claims 12-14 depend from 11. Neither Macku nor

Olson teaches the notion of an adjustable location of the connection point, among other things as well. When the entire claim is considered, it becomes clear that the 103 rejection is not proper and should be rescinded.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections and allow the application on to issuance.

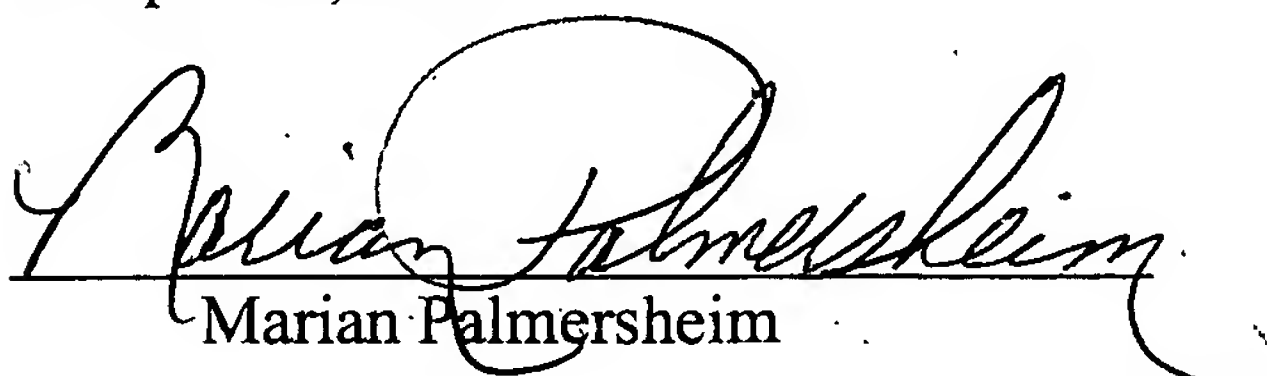
Respectfully submitted,

Joseph E. Musil et al.

By: 

Gregory G. Williams, Reg. No. 31,681  
Simmons, Perrine, Albright & Ellwood, P.L.C.  
Third Floor Tower Place  
22 South Linn Street  
Iowa City, Iowa 52240  
Telephone: (319) 887-1368  
Facsimile: (319) 887-1372

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on April 21, 2005.

  
Marian Palmersheim